

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

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KB

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB 1071

12 September 2011

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

☐ Notice of Exemption ☐ Petition for Exemption ☒ Regulated Abandonment

☒ **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

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OEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on August 12, 2011 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended 3 environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. The Estate of George M. Hart shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.
2. The Estate of George M. Hart (the Estate) shall take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all historic properties including sites, buildings, structures, and objects (including track and track material) within the project right-of-way (the Area of Potential Effect) that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places until the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, has been completed. The Estate shall report back to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis regarding any consultations with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation Office and the public. The Estate may not file its consummation notice or initiate any salvage activities related to abandonment (including removal of tracks and ties) until the Section 106 process has been completed and the Board has removed this condition.
3. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, the Estate of George M. Hart (the Estate) shall consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in order to discuss the implementation and documentation of any field surveys required to assess potential impacts to the bog turtle, a federally listed threatened species, and identify any

appropriate mitigation measures that may be warranted. The Estate shall report the results of this consultation in writing to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis prior to the onset of salvage activities. The Estate may not file its consummation notice or initiate any salvage activities related to abandonment (including removal of tracks and ties) until the consultation process has been completed and the Board has removed this condition.

If the above conditions are imposed, OEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

OEA CONTACT: Kenneth Blodgett (202-245-0305)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K Blodgett', written over the printed name.